

For Immediate Release February 08, 2006

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Public wanted for Pre-Chile Challenge Trash Cleanup

LAS CRUCES – The Las Cruces Four Wheel Drive Club will host a trash cleanup on BLM-managed lands Saturday, at 9 a.m., on Feb 11, 2006, prior to the annual Chile Challenge four-wheel drive extravaganza.

Members of the public are invited to join club members at 9 a.m. as they pick up trash and debris at the "air down" site in the BLM managed Robledos OHV area. The air down site is the staging area, or place where OHV enthusiasts meet and prepare their vehicles for the trails they are going to travel on.

Throughout the year people from Las Cruces and surrounding areas also use the staging area for camping and other activities. From high schoolers to serious four-wheel operators, the area is very popular.

"What is great about the four-wheel-drive club is that they do these cleanups several times a year," said BLM recreation specialist Oz Gomez. "The members of this club value our natural resources and, like us at BLM, want to keep them beautiful as well as open to the public."

The club also recently completed a similar clean up in the Box Canyon Dam area, on the other side of Picacho Peak.

"The trash clean ups go hand-in-hand with BLM's management goals for the area," said Gomez. "Unfortunately, there are inconsiderate users who do trash areas like this, which makes these off-road club sponsored cleanups even more important."

Event logistics:

Date: Saturday, Feb. 11, 2006

Time: 9 a.m.

What to bring: Water, gloves, sun block and appropriate shoes

Directions: Take West Picacho toward I-10. Turn right on Shalem Colony Trail.

Turn left on Rocky Acres. Follow the road to the left when it Y's



What is being provided?

- Roberto's Restaurant will provide breakfast burritos.
- Dona Ana County will provide trash bags and a roll-away dumpster through the "Keep America Beautiful" program
- BLM will provide trash bags and signs

For more information, check out the club's website at <u>www.lascrucesfourwheeldriveclub.com</u>, or contact club president Isaac Rodriguez at 505.621.4407

